

**INTERFAITH ROUNDTABLE OF KAUAI**  
**July 31, 2015**  
**Lihue Hongwanji, 3-3530 Kuhio Hwy, Lihue**  
**Minutes submitted by Sally Wilson**

**Present:** Rev. Rita Andriello-Feren, Annaleah Atkinson, Sr. Deborah Burnham, Rev. Michael O. Christensen, Marquis Dawkins (Ishaq Mohammad), Rev. Patrick Feren, Joseph Figaroa, William Garavito, Jim Jung, Rev. Mieko Majima, Cynthia Moore, Jeffrey Pears, Lucky Wells, Sally Wilson

**Opening Prayer:** Hawaiian prayer offered by Jim Jung. Message: “Enjoy the richness of being with the people in your life.”

**Welcoming and Call to order:** Jeffrey Pears.

**Minutes from Last Meeting:** Summarized by Jeffrey, no changes needed, approved by all.

**Treasurer’s Report:** In the absence of treasurer, Vel Alahan, Jeffrey reported that after miscellaneous donations and payment to UCC for retreat, our balance is \$1,141.21.

**Message from Chairperson:** Jeffrey’s message was about the **world premiere showing of “ĀINA”** a film about caring for the land, growing and eating healthy organic foods, and caring for each other. He pointed out that this film has a much deeper message of oneness, awareness, and being harmoniously in the ebb and flow of nature in connection with SPIRIT and our ancestors past and future. Go to [www.Ainafeeds.us](http://www.Ainafeeds.us) to watch this 23-minute film.

**Nomination and Election of New Steering Committee Members**

- Co-chairpersons: Jim Jung and Jeffrey Pears
- Treasurer: Al Albergate
- Secretary: Sally Wilson

Amendment to the by-laws to reflect that the duties of the chairperson will be divided between two co-chairpersons was proposed and passed.

Motion to set terms for steering committee members was tabled until a recommendation from the nominating committee, comprised of the co-chairpersons and Rev. Michael Christensen, is presented at the next meeting of IROK.

**Committee Reports:**

- a) **Membership:** John Moore was unable to attend the meeting due to job responsibilities. Jeffrey said our membership statistics are: 240 names on Kaua’i email list. Active membership is between 20-30.
- b) **Public Relations:** Al Albergate was unable to attend the meeting but earlier reported no new pr activities since last event.
- c) **Programming:** Cynthia, Moore reports the program calendar is filled for meetings through January of 2016. Rev. Michael Christensen will be presenting UCC at the meeting in August.
- d) **Website:** Jeffrey simplified the home page of the website. William Garavito has agreed to design a Youtube channel for IROK. Ishaq Mohammed has agreed to design a Facebook

- site for IROQ, of which IROK members can write and share individually.
- e) **Annual Retreat:** The 48 hour retreat was attended by 17 people and was universally considered a wonderful event. Sister Deborah thanks all those who helped and all who attended.
- a. Remarks and Suggestions -
    - i. The pre-survey was useful to determine what attendees wanted to lead
    - ii. Identify special food needs ahead of time
    - iii. A survey at end to get feedback about what worked and what was needed
    - iv. A larger meeting space so that the entire group can meditate and pray together
    - v. Love that it wasn't over-scheduled – left time for people to really get to know each other
  - f) **International Day of Peace:** We will hold observance on September 20. The committee will be comprised of Jeffrey Pears, Annaleah Atkinson, Joseph Figaroa, Rev. Patrick Feren, Rev. Rita Andriello-Feren and Michael Christensen. A meeting will be scheduled to plan it.

**Monthly Donation:** \$70 was received at the conclusion of our monthly meeting. Suggested donation is \$5 each meeting.

**New Business:** Sister Deborah Burnham would like to be on the program schedule to share LVE, a way to increase peace, happiness and social cohesion in the schools of Kaua`i through education of the whole person. She will be our speaker in February 2016.

**Old Business:** Tenth anniversary IROK coffee mugs are now available for \$20 each. Any profit will go to IROK.

**Program:** Sally Wilson spoke on the need to be mindful of incidents of racism and bigotry, which can grow into terrorism and horrors like the Holocaust. Seems appropriate for an inter-faith group like IROK to speak out, and possibly more, when such events occur. Taking a stand with a responsible and socially-sensitive approach (to include education of the facts) within our communities when tragedies occur (along with faith and emotional support founded in love and forgiveness) is one suggestion.

**Announcements:** There is an apt. available – 1 bedroom, \$800/month – near the Hindu monastery. It's on Craig's list. - Hanapepe UCC is hosting an interfaith Thanksgiving the night before Thanksgiving. Goal is to develop strategies to encourage LGBTQ fellowship.

**Next meeting:** 12-2 p.m. on Friday, August 28, 2015 at Lihue Hongwanji.

**Adjourn:** Meeting adjourned.

**ALOHA!**  
*May Peace Be With You*

### OUR MISSION

The Interfaith Roundtable of Kaua`i exists as a forum of local representatives from different spiritual, religious, and spiritual educational organizations who gather to share our faiths and explore our diversity while focusing on our similarities. We promote understanding, respect and harmony across different spiritual, religious and cultural groups in our shared community of Kaua`i.